



## Pier 21

For most of Canadian history, immigrants arrived in Canada by ship. From pre-Confederation through the 1960s, the ports of St. John, Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal, Vancouver and Victoria saw the arrival of millions of new Canadians. Of these immigration stations, only Halifax's Pier 21 has survived intact.

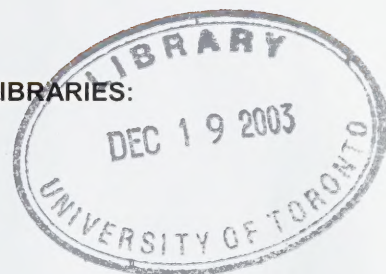
During its forty-three year history as port of entry, from its opening day on March 8, 1928 to its closing on March 28, 1971, this facility served as the gateway to Canada for over 1 million immigrants. Staff and volunteers welcomed some forty-eight thousand war brides with their twenty-two thousand children, over three thousand British evacuee children, and tens of thousands of displaced persons following World War Two.

In 1998, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada designated Pier 21 as a national historic site. Following an extensive fundraising campaign, the site re-opened in 1999 as museum celebrating the Canadian immigration experience. In addition to its exhibits, the museum contains a resource centre containing a variety of materials – videos, articles, books, photos and electronic databases – focusing on Canadian immigrants and immigration history.



### SUGGESTED SUBJECT HEADINGS TO USE WHEN RESEARCHING IN LIBRARIES:

Canada -- Emigration and Immigration -- History -- 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Immigrants -- Canada -- History -- 20th century  
Ports of entry -- Nova Scotia -- Halifax -- History



### SUGGESTED PRINT RESOURCES:

Anick, Norman. *Pier 21, Halifax, Nova Scotia*. Ottawa: National Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, 1987.

Canada. Employment and Immigration Canada (Commission). Nova Scotia Region. Public Affairs Division. *The Pier 21 Story : Halifax 1924-1971*. Halifax: Public Affairs, Employment and Immigration Canada, 1978.

Coleman, Amy. *Pier Into Your Past : A Family History Resource and Activity Guide*. Halifax: Pier 21, 2001.

Duivenvoorden Mitic, Trudy. "Gateway to Canada." *The Beaver*. 75, 1 (February-March 1995): 9-15.

Duivenvoorden Mitic, Trudy and J.P. LeBlanc. *Pier 21: The Gateway that Changed Canada*. Hantsport, Nova Scotia: Lancelot Press, 1995.

Gartner, Hana. *Pier 21 : The Journey to New Beginnings*. [videorecording] Toronto: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; 1999.

Granfield, Linda. *Pier 21 : Gateway of Hope*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2000.

Lynch, Allan. "Portraits d'immigrants." *La Review de l'Impériale*. (Printemps 2001): 2-7.

Lynch, Allan. "Telling the Immigrant Story." *Imperial Oil Review*. (Spring 2001): 2-7.

Mount Saint Vincent University. Art Gallery. *In Transit: Pier 21, Halifax, Nova Scotia*. Halifax: Mount Saint Vincent, 1994.

*Passages* [serial]. Halifax: Pier 21 Society, 1997-.

*Stories from Pier 21* [videorecording]. Halifax : Topsail Entertainment, 2000.

Thompson, Alexa and Debi Van de Wiel. *Pier 21: An Illustrated History of Canada's Gateway*. Halifax: Nimbus Pub., 2002.

Tinkham, Jennifer. *Lasting Impressions: The Volunteers of Pier 21*. Halifax: Pier 21, 2002.

Vukov, Tamara. *Imagining Canada, Imagining the Desirable Immigrant: Immigration Spectacle as Settler Postcolonialism*. M.A. Thesis, Concordia University, 2000. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 2002.

Zorde, Izida. *Constructing national history at Pier 21*. M.A. Thesis, University of Toronto, 2001. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 2002.

#### **SUGGESTED ONLINE RESOURCES:**

Parks Canada. National Historic Sites. Pier 21 Backgrounder.  
[[http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/apps/cp-nr/release\\_e.asp?bgid=134&andor=bg](http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca/apps/cp-nr/release_e.asp?bgid=134&andor=bg)]

Pier 21 Society. [<http://pier21.ca>]

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